

proudest has been the creation of a resource officer position at the Grand Valley High School.

While his work in law enforcement has been critical to the community, he has also made significant contributions in other ways. He remains active with the St. John Middle School football program and for many years was the assistant coach for the Grand Valley High School baseball team. He has also served as a director for the Garfield 16 school board and the local park and recreation district.

I commend Chief Higuera for his years of service and dedication to the town of Parachute. It is people like him that make our communities safe and pleasant places to live and work. We owe him a debt of gratitude and wish him well in his retirement.

SUPPORT FOR THE VANADIUM TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Vanadium Technology Partnership, a program of great importance to both my constituents in Northwest Pennsylvania and the men and women serving in the United States military at home and overseas. The Vanadium Technology Partnership, or VTP, is a cooperative relationship between the vanadium microalloyed steel industry and the U.S. Army. The partnership is working to apply high-performance steels in military applications.

The military uses some quantity of vanadium in virtually every application where steel products are employed. As the chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, I recognize the crucial benefits that VTP offers to domestic steel industry as well as the U.S. armed services. I have worked extensively on behalf of VTP, including Bear Metallurgical Company, a key vanadium producer in my district and member of the partnership. Since VTP's inception in 2003, the steel industry and the military have employed vanadium in their daily operations to a much larger degree. Vanadium is currently being used to increase armor strength and reduce the weight of current combat vehicles, tactical vehicles, tactical bridges, material handling equipment, aircraft, watercraft and rail. Further, case studies looking at ways to expand vanadium's uses have been completed and are now in the process of deployment, including a vanadium steel rebar program, long span structures, trailer weight reduction, and vanadium spiral-welded pipe.

I would also like to offer my sincere gratitude to Dr. John Beatty with the Army Research Lab for his support and oversight of VTP since its inception. I was particularly pleased to learn that the Army has agreed to support the use of VTP funding to undertake critical health and safety research. This research will help ensure the safe and continued use of vanadium for industry and the military.

In closing, I am grateful to both my colleagues and the military for recognizing the crucial benefits of the Vanadium Technology Partnership. I have made the advancement of this technology a top priority and encourage its continuation. With the Army's commitment

to the VTP, the many uses of vanadium will continue to benefit our servicemen and women serving at home and overseas.

PRESIDENT HU JINTAO— PRESIDENT OF CHINA

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great importance we have the opportunity to discuss Chinese President Hu Jintao's upcoming visit to Washington this April. During his visit, a number of issues will be discussed with President Bush, especially the issue of Taiwan.

We welcome President Hu Jintao and we hope his visit will help reduce mounting tensions in the Taiwan Strait.

As President Hu Jintao visits Washington, we urge the administration and the international community to help China accept the universal values of democracy, freedom and human rights and to renounce the use of force to resolve the Taiwan issue.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome President Hu Jintao to the United States and hope that he has productive meetings with the administration on a wide range of issues, especially the issue of Taiwan.

THE ELLA J. GILMORE STREET DESIGNATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congressional District Three, the Central Florida community, and the City of Apopka, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Ella J. Gilmore for this historic street name designation.

Your numerous noteworthy accomplishments and leadership in the Central Florida community includes work in the early 1970's in obtaining street paving and lighting for West 14th Street residents. You coordinated and provided leadership for the Orange County's South Apopka Targeted Initiative Pilot Project in 1991, which included community improvement projects, street lighting and paving, public facilities and youth programs in the South Apopka community.

It has often been said, "To whom much is given, much is required." This statement is exhibited by the work you have done and continues to be done in your position as Deputy Director of the Orange County Health and Family Services Department.

Continue to let your light shine as God directs your path in your mission to impact this and other Central Florida communities. Your unending involvement helps to improve the quality of many, many individual lives. Your community involvement will never go unnoticed.

Again, I say "Congratulations." It is an honor to say you are truly a "Phenomenal Woman."

TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY LEADER PAULA WHITNEY

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a great civic and community leader, Paula Whitney, upon her retirement as President of the Mill Basin Civic Association. Paula Whitney is a lifetime resident of the Mill Basin community and can trace her roots back to one of the first families to establish a residence in the area. She has a deep love for this close knit Brooklyn community and has dedicated a large part of her time and energy to ensuring the opportunities provided to her and her family over the years are preserved and fortified for future community residents.

Paula Whitney joined the Mill Basin Civic Association in 1979 and held several offices before being elected president in 1989. As president, Paula Whitney has spearheaded many campaigns to improve the Mill Basin community and keep it family friendly. She has brought many problems that otherwise might be swept under a rug into the light of day and had an uncanny ability to demand the proper amount of attention and respect from elected officials, our local police precinct and our local schools. Thanks in large part to Paula Whitney's persistence and hard work, no issue raised at her meetings ever went unanswered.

Paula Whitney taught civic responsibility by example, and her two children, Michael Francis and Jeanne Marie, learned it well. Jeanne serves on the civics' Board of Directors. Paula is married to Allan Whitney, a civic leader in his own right, who serves as the Third Vice President.

Paula's dedication to our community runs deeper than devoting herself to just one organization. She has represented her Mill Basin community at School Board meetings, served as a former Board Member of the Mill Bergen Chemical People Task Force, as a member of the Flatlands Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and as a member of Community Board 18, where she is chairperson of the Libraries Committee.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate Paula Whitney upon the completion of her service as president of the Mill Basin Civic Association and thank her for her many years of hard work on behalf of my constituents and the City of New York.

TRIBUTE TO DIANNE REEVES

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of a remarkable woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize Dianne Reeves for her preeminent artistic achievement and her excellence in numerous creative endeavors.

Dianne Reeves has used her talent, skill and energy to create an inimitable musical and artistic presence for which she has received international acclaim. She came to our